Message Text

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6230

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

S E C R E T EC BRUSSELS 0144

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, EEC

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL INVITATION TO ENERGY CONFERENCE

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 128; (B) EC BRUSSELS 0081

1. FOLLOWING OUR APPROACH TO THE EC COMMISSION JANUARY 9 (REFTEL A), HANNAY, SOAMES' CHEF DE CABINET, GAVE US THE INITIAL EC COMMISSION REATION TO THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL. HE INDICATED THAT THE FULL COMMISSION HAD GREETED THE PRESIDENT'S LETTERS TO CERTAIN COMMUNITY MEMBER STATES WITH SATISFACTION AND, IN PARTICULAR, VIEWED POSITIVELY THE SPEC*AL PARAGRAPH ON THE COMMUNITY IN THE PRESIDENT'S SECRET

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LETTER TO BRANDT.

- 2. HANNAY SAID THAT PRIOR*TO NEWS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES, THE COMMISSION HAD ALREADY PLANNED TO CONSIDER AT ITS MEETING TODAY AN INITIAL POLICY COMMUNICATION TO THE EC COUNCIL RECOMMENDING A FAVORABLE POSTURE TOWARD THE EAG PROPOSAL AND URGING THAT THE EC GOVERNMENTS RESPO*D AS A COMMUNITY (REFTEL B).
- 3. THE COMMISSION DECIDED TO GO AHEAD AND FORWARD THIS FIRST COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL AS PLANNED. WHILE IT MAKES NO EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGES TO BRANDT AND CERTAIN OTHER COMMUNITY HEADS OF GOVERNMENT, ITS OVERALL THRUST IS CONSISTENT TH THE COMMISSION'S SUPPORT FOR US OBJECTIVESAND IT ANTICIPATES THE PRESIDENT'S COMMUNICATIONS BY REFERENCE TO THE SECRETARY'S JANUARY 3 PRESS CONFERENCE. THE COMMISSION NOW EXPECTS TO SEND A SECOND AND FULLER COM-MUNICATION TO THE EC COUNCIL PROMPTLY THAT WILL ADDRESS THE PRESIDENT'S INVITATION. SPECIFICALLY, (HANNAY EXPECTS THAT THE SECOND COMMUNICATION WILL INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POSITIONS THE COMMUNITY OUGHT TO TAKE AT THE WASHINGTON MEETING. THIS WOULD BE BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE COUNCIL WILL AGREE THAT THE COMMUNITY AS SUCH SHOULD BE REPRESENTED AND COMMON APPROACHES DEVELOPED.
- 4. SHORTLY AFTER OUR TALK WITH HANNAY THE COMMISSION RELEASED PUBLICLY ITS JANUARY 9 COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL. TEXT FOLLOWS BY SEPTEL. HARTMAN

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